

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)

Applicant(s): Masashi NAKASHITA et al.

Docket No.

121027-0194

Application No.
10/602,960Filing Date
June 24, 2003Examiner
Ling XuGroup Art Unit
1775

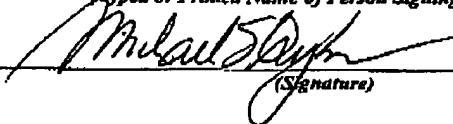
Invention:

WATER ABSORBENT STRUCTURE AND PROCESS FOR MAKING THE SAME

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Michael S. Gzybowski

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Appl. No. 10/602,960
Response Dated February 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2006

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group
Art Unit: 1775

Attorney
Docket No.: 121027-0194

Applicants: Masashi NAKASHITA et al.

Invention: WATER-ABSORBENT STRUCTURE AND
PROCESS FOR MAKING THE SAME

Serial No: 10/602,960

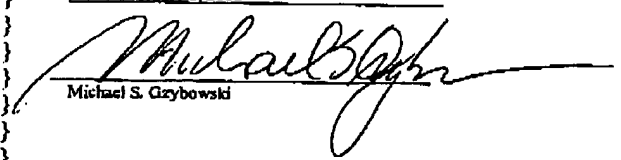
Filed: 06/24/2003

Examiner: Ling Xu

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(b)

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below.

on February 6, 2006


Michael S. Gzybowski

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 4, 2006, applicants submit the following:

In the Office Action of January 4, 2006 the Examiner has required applicants to election
between the following allegedly patentably distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-8, drawn to a product, classified in class 428, subclass 116; and
- II. Claims 9-12, drawn to a method, classified in class 264, subclass 630.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicants hereby elect the invention of claims 1-
8 (Group I) to be examined in the present application.

Applicants preserve their right to seek patent protection of the non-elected claims (9-12) by
filing a divisional patent application during the pendency of the present application.

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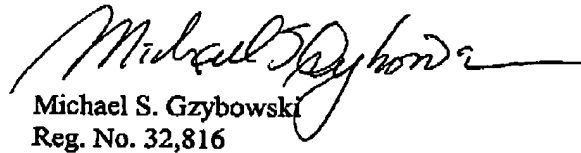
Entry of applicants' election and an early examination of the application are requested.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the Official Action and reconsideration is requested.

If upon consideration of the above, the Examiner should feel that there remain outstanding issues in the present application that could be resolved, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's patent counsel at the telephone number given below to discuss such issues.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 12-2136 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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